

REMARKS

The Present Application was submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on 12 June 2006. The Present Application is a U.S. National Phase entry from PCT Patent Application No. PCT/US2004/0041677, which was filed with the United States Receiving Office of the Patent Cooperation Treaty on 10 December 2004. Further, the Present Application claims priority to Chinese Patent Application No. 200320123780.6, which was filed with the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China on 11 December 2003. By previous Response, Claims 1 and 8-9 were amended, and no Claims were canceled or withdrawn. By this Response, Independent Claim 1 has been amended, and Dependent Claims 8-9 and 18 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1-7, 10-7 and 19 remain pending in the Present Application.

In the 22 December 2010 Office Communication, the Examiner initially rejected Dependent Claims 8-9 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the Invention. Specifically, a limitation in each Dependent Claim does not have proper antecedent basis. With this Response, Applicant has canceled these Claims.

In the 22 December 2010 Office Communication, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-2, 8-14, 16-7 and 19 as being anticipated by *Meyerhoff et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 3,457,988). Further, the Examiner rejected Dependent Claims 3-7 as being unpatentable over *Meyerhoff* in view of *Wang et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,386,274); and Dependent Claim 15 as being unpatentable over *Meyerhoff*. Finally, the Examiner indicated that Dependent Claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in Independent form.

In response, Applicant has amended Independent Claim 1 to incorporate the patentable elements of Dependent Claim 18, and has subsequently canceled that Claim.

In light of the Remarks and Amendments presented herein, Applicant respectfully asserts that this Response places the Present Application in condition for allowance, and request as such. Should the Examiner not agree, or have any further questions, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

As mentioned above, the shortened statutory period for response to the 22 December 2010 Office Communication was 22 March 2011. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully and concurrently requests a Three (3) Month Extension Of Time be granted to file this Response. The associated Extension Of Time Fee may be charged to Deposit Account No. 501873.

Date: 21 June 2011

Respectfully submitted,

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